Subject No. 136.

Kerebandi system should be revived.

Summary of discussion.—The system of Kerebandis should be revived. They were useful in throwing earth on tank bunds and thus maintaining them to standard height.

Dewan's reply.—The Kerebandis seldom did their work and when they did it, they did not do it well. The Inams have been enfranchised, and it is doubtful that any good will accrue by restoring the system.

Subject No. 137.

Boundary marks should be constructed of stone, instead of earthen mounds.

Summary of discussion.—Raiyats should be allowed to construct boundary marks of stone of prescribed dimensions in their wet lands. The present earthen mounds are difficult to maintain in marshy ground, and often shelter vermin which destroy the crops.

Note.—A similar application was made by a Representative from Sidlaghatta Taluk (Kolar District) in respect of Bandhs on dry lands.

Dewan's reply.—In Taluks which are being surveyed, option has been given to substitute stone marks of prescribed dimensions for earthen mounds in wet lands. But there are grave objections to the measure, as stone marks are so easily displaced. The substitution of these stones, where Bandh marks have been put up in Taluks already surveyed and settled, would not moreover be expedient except where all the landholders under a large irrigation work agree and unanimously ask for it. The proposal to supersede earthen mounds by cut stones in dry crop-lands is absurd. In all cases whether the land is dry or wet, nothing is easier than to make the Bandhs of rough stones closely packed.

Subject No. 138.

Mohatarfa on sites not built upon.

Summary of discussion.—Raiyats are asked to pay Mohatarfa on house sites belonging to them, but on which they have not built houses. This is hard.

Dewan's reply.—There is no order justifying this. On the one hand it is wrong to assess house-tax when there is no house. It is equally wrong on the other hand to keep sites without building on them, and as is often the case without keeping them clean and tidy. Inquiries will be made regarding the wrong assessment.

Subject No. 139.

Tangadi leaves should be granted free for manure.

Summary of discussion.—Leaves of the Tangadi plant should be allowed to be taken free for manuring fields. The Forest Department object to this.

Dewan's reply.—They object rightly, as plucking leaves will destroy the plants, the bark of which yields a good revenue to Government. An arrangement for Honge leaves is under consideration for the Kolar District and when adopted will be extended to the Tumkur District also. (See also Subjects No.s 145,152 and 165 below.)

Subject No. 140.

Transfer of Kibbanhalli Hobli from Tiptur to Chiknayakanhalli Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Kibbanhalli sammat now attached to the Tiptur Taluk may be transferred to the Chiknayakanhalli Taluk.

Dewan's reply.—The present arrangement seems convenient, because of the Railway to Tiptur, while there is none to Chiknayakanhalli.

Subject No. 141.

Absorption of Huliyar Sub-Taluk into Chiknayakanhalli and Hosdurga.

Summary of discussion.—The Huliyar Sub-Taluk may be abolished, its villages being distributed between the Chiknayakanhalli Taluk and the Hosdurga Sub-Taluk.

Dewan's reply.—The suggestion seems a good one and is noted for consideration after consultation with the people of Huliyar.

Subject No. 142.

Revision of existing Hulbanni system.

Summary of discussion.—The present practice of distributing the Hulbanni amount on heads of cattle is not convenient to the raiyats, as the right of grazing in any one village does not extend to the cattle of the neighbouring villages. It may therefore be abolished and the grazing made free. If this cannot be done, one uniform rate per head of cattle may be prescribed and the cattle allowed to graze wherever pasturage is available, without any restriction.

Note.—Mr. Dasappa, Representative from Nelamangala Taluk (Bangalore District), also sought for a revision of the existing Hulbanni system but on different grounds. He observed that two years' realisations are taken into account and apportioned among the raiyats for Hulbanni. This entailed loss sometimes upon raiyats and sometimes also upon Government when waste lands, excluded in the Hulbanni list, are brought under plough or cultivated lands are thrown up. He would suggest that the better course was to ascertain the actual extent of waste lands available during each of past years and a rate per acre fixed.

Dewan's reply.—Hulbanni cannot be abolished. It is not levied on head of cattle. The present system by which an average of past years' realizations is collected without sale has proved more agreeable to the people than the previous system of sale field by field. It will further be improved upon and an average acreage will be adopted. But the residents of one village cannot be allowed to graze their cattle on the lands of another village in which they have hitherto had no such right. (See Subject No. 108 *ante*.)